

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 15325 301136Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 /071 W
-----012071 301209Z /75

R 301056Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5327
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 15325

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF
SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF ROC POLICY ON INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: (A) STATE 94542 (B) TAIPEI 3013 (C) STATE 125347
(D) STATE 135333

1. AN EMBASSY OFFICER MET MAY 24 WITH CHINA AIRLINES
CHIEF OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WU MING-YEN TO DISCUSS CURRENT
ROC POLICY ON INDOCHINESE REFUGEES. WU SAID THAT SINCE
THE BEGINNING OF 1978 HE HAS SUBMITTED TO TAIPEI APPROXI-
MATELY 30-40 INDOCHINESE REFUGEE CASES PER MONTH. TAIPEI
USUALLY TAKES 2-3 MONTHS TO REACH A DECISION. WU SAID THAT
TAIPEI HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO THE FOURTEEN NONG KHAI
REFUGEE CASES WHICH WE REFERRED TO HIM IN MARCH,
BUT THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT THAT A FAVORABLE REPLY WOULD
BE FORTHCOMING. WU POINTED OUT THAT IN 1976 AND 1977
TAIPEI APPROVED APPROXIMATELY 20-30 PER CENT OF THE
INDOCHINESE REFUGEE CASES THAT WERE SUBMITTED, BUT IN
1978 THE ROC SEEMS TO HAVE ADOPTED A MORE RESTRICTIVE
POLICY. DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS, FOR INSTANCE,
TAIPEI HAS NOT APPROVED A SINGLE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE
CASE THAT WU SUBMITTED. IN MOST CASES TAIPEI REJECTED
THE CASES BECAUSE THE REFUGEE HAD NOT LIVED IN A FREE-
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WORLD COUNTRY FOR FIVE YEARS.

2. WU ALSO SAID THAT THE ROC DOES NOT HAVE ANY SPECIAL
PROGRAM OR SPECIFIC POLICY FOR INDOCHINESE REFUGEES.
ALL REFUGEES IN THE REGION, INCLUDING THOSE WHO FLEE
MAINLAND CHINA TO HONG KONG, ARE CONSIDERED UNDER THE
SAME ROC IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS. BECAUSE OF THE

LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES INVOLVED, AND THE LACK OF
SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR INDOCHINESE REFUGEES, WU
BELIEVES THAT THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE ROC
WILL ACCEPT SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES
IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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